

Our Mission:

"To Foster Cooperation and Strategies to Address Regional Challenges and Support the Comprehensive Plan"

The Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG)

is a voluntary association of elected officials representing seven villages and two townships in the Barrington area. BACOG is a regional planning organization that serves to foster discussion, to study area needs, and to promote coordination of activities to solve problems of a regional nature.

BACOG Member Governmental Units:

Barrington Hills	James Kempe, Village President and 2004-2005 BACOG Chairperson
Barrington	Marshall Reagle, Village President
Deer Park	H. Scott Gifford, Village President
Lake Barrington	Connie Schofield, Village President
North Barrington	Craig Parker, Acting Village President
South Barrington	Frank Munao, Village President
Tower Lakes	Leonard Kuskowski, Village President
Barrington Township	Eugene "Gene" Dawson, Supervisor
Cuba Township	David Nelson, Supervisor

As a new fiscal year begins, I am delighted to introduce two new members to BACOG, namely Barrington and Cuba Townships. Councils of government have long had the option to include members from other governmental districts, and many COGs across the country have done so. We welcome the fresh perspective Supervisors Dawson and Nelson and their boards will bring to discussion of regional matters.

Many thanks to Barrington Village President Marshall Reagle who ably served as BACOG Chairperson during 2003-04. Reagle was active on the Legislative Committee and opened the door to new memberships during his term. Congratulations to our new officers, Jim Kempe and Frank Munao. Also, I continue to be impressed by our hard-working committee volunteers and will be forever grateful for their time and efforts on BACOG projects.

Please look for our annual report, which will be issued soon and available on-line and at the township and village halls and the Barrington Area Library. The annual report will detail BACOG's work over the past year.

Janet L. Agnoletti, Executive Director

BARRINGTON TOWNSHIP & CUBA TOWNSHIP JOIN BACOG

The Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG) Executive Board approved two new members, Barrington Township and Cuba Township, to the regional planning organization at its August 24, 2004 Board Meeting. The council has been comprised of the Villages of Barrington, Barrington Hills, Deer Park, Lake Barrington, North Barrington, South Barrington and Tower Lakes since the mid-1980's. The additional membership will add a more comprehensive dynamic to the council as the local townships and villages collaborate for stronger support of the 6 square mile BACOG region.

The board welcomes its new members, and Executive Director Janet Agnoletti looks forward to working with Barrington Township Supervisor Eugene "Gene" Dawson and Cuba Township Supervisor David Nelson. Agnoletti said this is the first time in the organization's 34-year history that townships have been invited to join. "Though we recognize the different missions of township and municipal governments, our concerns and interests over time are growing closer together," she said. Agnoletti noted, "The townships are more active in land use issues ; pressures to develop the remaining land intensify. At the same time, municipalities increasingly must respond to their residents' needs for services and community development. More and more, our goals as government overlap." A large portion of BACOG resides within Barrington and Cuba Townships' boundaries, and inversely, most of the townships themselves are within BACOG boundaries.

Traditionally, BACOG and the townships have provided input towards each other's planning, but recently they have worked more closely together on issues affecting area residents. In Spring 2004, Cuba Township and Barrington Township contributed funding toward the BACOG Groundwater Initiative for the second year. The townships and BACOG also have joined forces to protect the area's sensitive resources on several occasions. Most recently, data compiled for the BACOG groundwater study was used to support township positions regarding a development issue in the College Street area and the expansion of the Wauconda water treatment facility. During the 34 years of growth in the BACOG area, what has remained constant is the regional planning and cooperation that safeguard the area's small town feel and countryside character.

BACOG HIGHLIGHTS

2004-2005 OFFICERS

Two long-standing officials will be leading BACOG through the transition of the organization as it takes on its two new members. Barrington Hills Village President James Kempe was elected as Chairperson of the Executive Board and South Barrington Village President Frank Munao was elected as Vice Chairperson for 2004-2005, which began July 1, 2004.

Kempe and Munao have many years of experience with BACOG and have earned a distinctive record of service with their respective municipalities and the regional organization, with both having served as chairperson for BACOG in the past. Most recently, Kempe and Munao have served as Vice Chairperson over the last three fiscal years. Kempe also has led the BACOG Legislative Committee since it was re-established in July 2002.

IMPACT FEES

The Village of South Barrington is the sixth BACOG member village to adopt the BACOG Model Impact Fee Ordinance developed by the BACOG Impact Fee Committee. Barrington Hills is now considering the ordinance to charge impact fees on new housing to help recoup the costs to schools, parks, library and fire districts from the effects of population increases resulting from new development.

WATER RESOURCES INITIATIVE

The sharing of information and mutual support between BACOG and various state agencies has been a foundation for obtaining technical data on the region's groundwater in support of the research underway at BACOG and this cooperation was recognized in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency seventh biennial report "Illinois Groundwater Protection Program".

The council is aiding the Illinois State Geological Survey (ISGS) with identifying wells and areas for concentrated study for its geological mapping of the Barrington quadrangle. The ISGS will use the process of natural gamma logging to map the geological structure of this region.

The Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) has begun water quality testing of wells from the BACOG Well Volunteer Network. Twenty-three different parameters are being evaluated including alkalinity, total dissolved

solids, turbidity, pH, color, odor, arsenic, barium and iron. A network of approximately 60 well volunteers was organized by BACOG last year for an ISWS water measurement study and is proving to be an effective tool for creating baseline data for future monitoring. No negative water quality test results have been found to date.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The 2004 Legislative platform, adopted April 2004, provides a structure for action to be taken by the Legislative Committee and the BACOG Executive Director, who serves as a lobbyist on behalf of the BACOG villages and works one-on-one with our state elected officials. BACOG brings awareness to the special needs of our area by establishing the Platform and working closely with our legislators to promote and protect the tenets of the BACOG Comprehensive Plan. The Platform includes:

- Support for Groundwater Protection and Funding
- Support for Repeal of NPDES/Other Fees Recently Imposed on Local Governments and Preservation of State Shared Revenues.
- Support for Enabling Legislation for Development Impact Fees
- Support for the Extension of Route 53 in Lake County
- Support for Intergovernmental Agreements for Zoning
- Support for Modifications to State Disconnection Legislation
- Support for Modifications to the Affordable Housing Planning and Appeals Act

The committee has begun to investigate how area villages can respond to the Affordable Housing Planning and Appeals Act. The Act mandates that all Illinois municipalities contain an adequate stock of affordable housing, which by statute is 10% or more of the total housing units, or create a new plan to move towards this goal. According to the Illinois Housing Development Authority, six of the seven BACOG member villages must comply and adopt an affordable housing plan. The Village of Barrington is exempt from complying with the Act after a study commissioned by IDHA determined the municipality meets the Act's requirement to have at the minimum a 10% "affordable housing" stock.

Barrington Area Council of Governments
218 West Main Street
Barrington, IL 60010

Executive Director:	Janet L. Agnoletti
Administrative Assistant:	Loretta Peterson
Newsletter Editor:	Loretta Peterson

For more information about BACOG, call (847) 381-7871 or log on to our website at www.bacog.org